

THE BLACK CORTEX

CHAPTER 6

GUARDIANS
TEAM-UP™

003

GUARDIANS
OF THE GALAXY
WITH
RONAN



MARVEL

HUMPHRIES
MAYHEW
BEREDO

GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY & X-MEN

THE BLACK VORTEX

CHAPTER 6

Previously in *The Black Vortex*...

Billions of years ago, an ancient race named the Viscardi were gifted an object of immense cosmic power by a Celestial. This artifact, known as the Black Vortex, transformed the user, imbuing them with cosmic energy. However, the power of this object caused the Viscardi to turn on each other, annihilating their own race from within.

When the sadistic Mister Knife, also known as J'Son, Peter Quill's father, managed to obtain the Black Vortex, Peter and Kitty Pryde stole the artifact and recruited the Guardians of the Galaxy and the X-Men to help battle Mister Knife. Gamora, the elder Beast, and Angel chose to submit to the Vortex and the three cosmically enhanced heroes took the artifact and sped off with a new mission—to reshape the universe in their image. However, they were ambushed by Ronan the Accuser, who stole the Black Vortex from them. In retaliation for this, Gamora, Beast, and Angel began to lay waste to the Kree homeworld, Hala, while Ronan, Star-Lord, Storm and Jean Grey can do nothing but watch...

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THIS IS THE LAST ENTRY
OF THE SUPREME
ACCUSER OF THE
KREE EMPIRE.

THE FINAL CHRONICLE
OF RONAN.



THE ACCUSER
WHO *DISOBEYED*.

ON THE DAY
THE *BLACK*
VORTEX--

--CAME
TO HALA.

THE THRONE
WORLD WAS
UNDER
ATTACK.

AND WITH IT,
THE ENTIRE
KREE EMPIRE.

THE PLANET
WHERE I WAS
SWORN TO DUTY--



--AND THE PLANET
WHERE I FELL
FROM GRACE.

**SUPREME
INTELLIGENCE, WE
ARE IN DANGER OF
LOSING HALA TO
THREE ENEMIES.**

TWO EARTHLING
MUTANTS AND A
DAUGHTER OF THANOS.
BUT THEIR POWER IS
MORE THAN EVEN THE
ACCUSER CORPS CAN
COUNTER.

THEY HAVE
BEEN ENHANCED
BY THIS UNKNOWN
ARTIFACT--

--THE BLACK
VORTEX.

LISTEN
TO US, BIG GUY.
YOU AIN'T SEEN
NOTHING LIKE THE
BLACK VORTEX
BEFORE. THIS IS
THE BIG TIME,
AND--

QUILL...

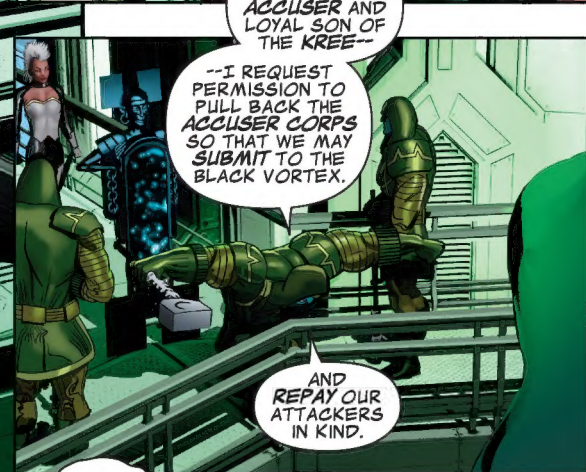
SUPREMO,
AS A SWORN
ACCUSER AND
LOYAL SON OF
THE KREE--

--I REQUEST
PERMISSION TO
PULL BACK THE
ACCUSER CORPS
SO THAT WE MAY
SUBMIT TO THE
BLACK VORTEX.

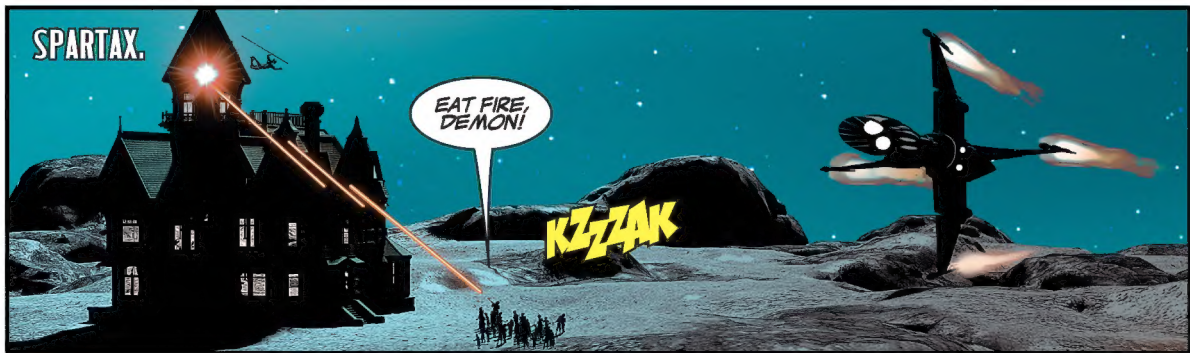
AND
REPAY OUR
ATTACKERS
IN KIND.

ARISE,
RONAN.

YOUR
REQUEST IS
DENIED.











PATHETIC
CREATURES.

I AM GARA,
THE LAST OF
THE VISCARDI. AN
ELDER OF THE
UNIVERSE.

AND I AM
HERE TO
DESTROY THE
BLACK
VORTEX.

LITTLE IN THE
UNIVERSE IS
UNAMBIGUOUS

HALA.

BUT IT IS NOT SO IN THE EYES OF THE SUPREME INTELLIGENCE.

I BROUGHT QUILL HERE, WITH HIS ALLIES STORM AND JEAN, TO CONVINCE MY COMMANDER. TO SHOW HIM THE RIGHT COURSE OF ACTION.

THE VOWS OF AN ACCUSER SEEM UNAMBIGUOUS. YET SOMETIMES...THEY CONTRADICT EACH OTHER.

PROTECT THE KREE EMPIRE AT ANY COST.

OBEY THE WORD OF THE SUPREME INTELLIGENCE.

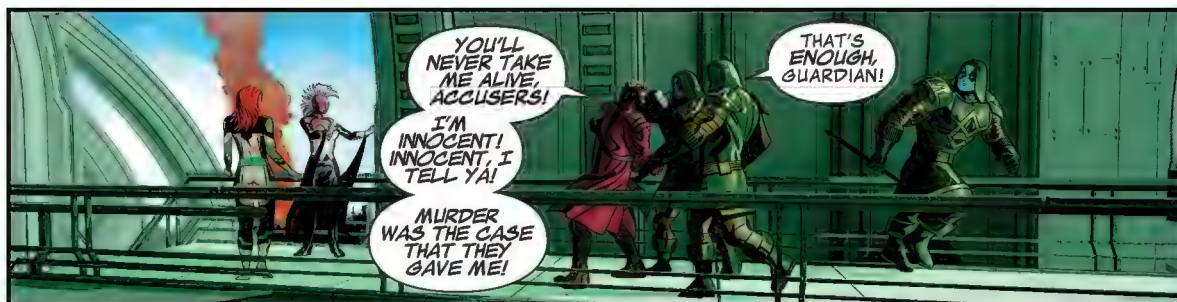
DEFEND YOUR BROTHER AND SISTER ACCUSERS.

ENFORCE THE LAW.

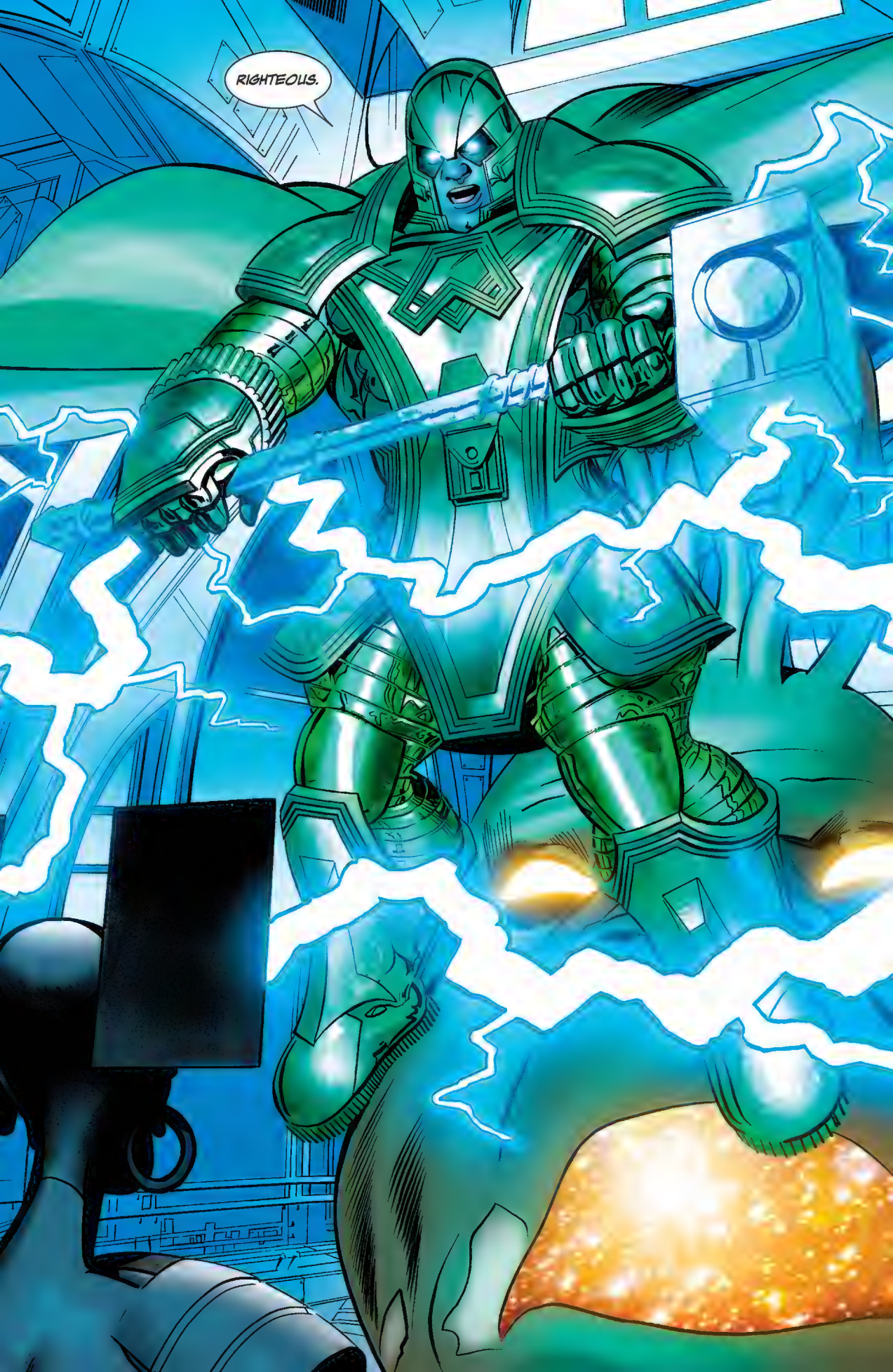
IS DUTY INCOMPATIBLE WITH HONOR?

WHAT MEANS MORE ON THE BATTLEFIELD? ON YOUR DEATHBED?





RIGHTEOUS.





NO.

MY FLOCK.



WHAT
HAPPENED...?

HOW
COULD
THIS--

--I SHOULD
NEVER HAVE
LEFT YOU.



PLEASE
FORGIVE ME.
I THOUGHT I
WAS DOING THE
RIGHT THING.

YOU
CAME FROM ALL
OVER THE COSMOS.
NO ONE TO PROTECT
YOU. AND NOW EVEN
I HAVE FAILED...



...WHO
COULD HAVE
DONE THIS?

WHO
COULD HAVE
PERPETRATED
THIS MASS
SLAUGHTER?!

WHO,
INDEED,
THANE?



YOU. HAVE
YOU COME TO
MOCK ME IN MY
GRIEF, EBONY
MAW?

THANE,
YOUR PAIN IS
MY PAIN. THIS IS A
HORRENDOUS ATROCITY
THAT CAN NEVER BE
MADE RIGHT.

AND YET,
PERHAPS...



...PERHAPS YOU
CAN HONOR THEM,
IN MEMORIUM...



SOMEONE
DID THIS.



INDEED.
THERE CAN
ONLY BE ONE
PATH.

THEIR GHOSTS
PRAY FOR IT.
AVENGE THEM. SEIZE
THE POWER MISTER
KNIFE PROMISED
YOU AND--



REVENGE.

WHOEVER
DID THIS--I
WILL SHATTER
THE COSMOS TO
FIND THEM.

I WILL
WASH THEIR
SIN IN
BLOOD.



IN THE
NAME OF MY
FLOCK--

--I WILL HAVE
REVENGE!

HALA.

HAAAUGH!

HOLD!

RKAAAZ

THIS EMPIRE
IS UNDER THE
PROTECTION OF
RONAN THE
ACCUSER.

SURRENDER--
OR FACE THE
HAMMER OF
JUSTICE.

GAMORA!
ANGEL! STALL
HIM.

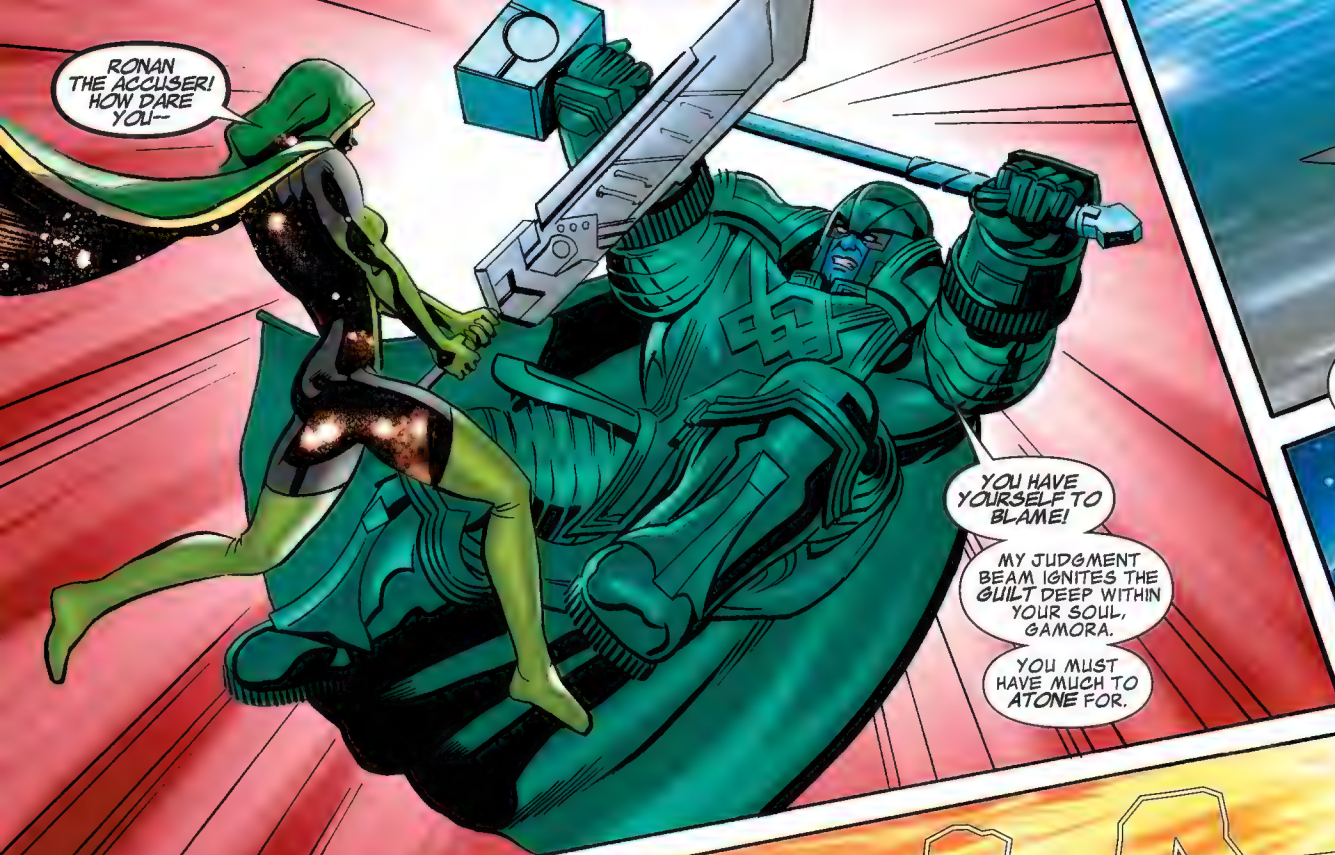
MY REPLICA
OF SPACE-TIME
IS NEARLY
COMPLETE.
WHEN IT IS--

--ALL
POSSIBILITIES
WILL BE IN THE
PALM OF OUR
HANDS.

ON IT,
BEAST!

92.021%
COMPLETE.

94.914%
COMPLETE.



RONAN
THE ACCUSER!
HOW DARE
YOU--

YOU HAVE
YOURSELF TO
BLAME!

MY JUDGMENT
BEAM IGNITES THE
GUILT DEEP WITHIN
YOUR SOUL,
GAMORA.

YOU MUST
HAVE MUCH TO
ATONE FOR.



GUILT
IS FOR THE
WEAK.

KRAAANG

I'VE NEVER
SEEN ONE OF OUR
OWN ACCUSERS
LOOK LIKE
THAT!

FORCES
HOLD! BACK UP
FORMATION!

RONAN
HAS THIS.

YOU LOOK
LIKE A REAL
BRAWLER.

GOOD!
GLORY REQUIRES
A CHALLENGE
WORTHY OF MY
POWER--



KRAAANG

--A
VICTORY
FOR THE
AGES!



KEEP
HIM AT BAY,
ANGEL! ALMOST
READY--

HOLY COW--
FOR WEARING
A BUCKET ON
HIS HEAD, THAT
GUY IS BAD
ASS!

RONAN HAS
SUBMITTED TO
THE VORTEX!

HE'S NOT
FIGHTING US,
HE'S SAVING
THE CITY!

99.993%
COMPLETE. 99.997%
COMPLETE.



THEY WILL
REMEMBER
THIS DAY,
CHILD.



BUT
YOU WILL NOT
LIKE HOW THEY
REMEMBER
YOU!

100%
COMPLETE.

IT'S
DONE.

IT'S
BEAUTIFUL...

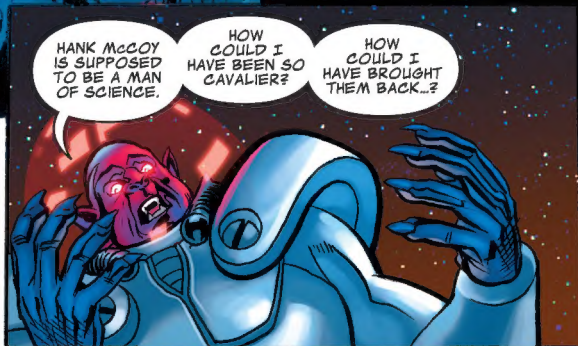




...IT'S
BROKEN.

I BROKE
THE FABRIC OF
SPACE-TIME.

EVERYTHING
DIES.



HANK MCCOY
IS SUPPOSED
TO BE A MAN
OF SCIENCE.

HOW
COULD I
HAVE BEEN SO
CAVALIER?

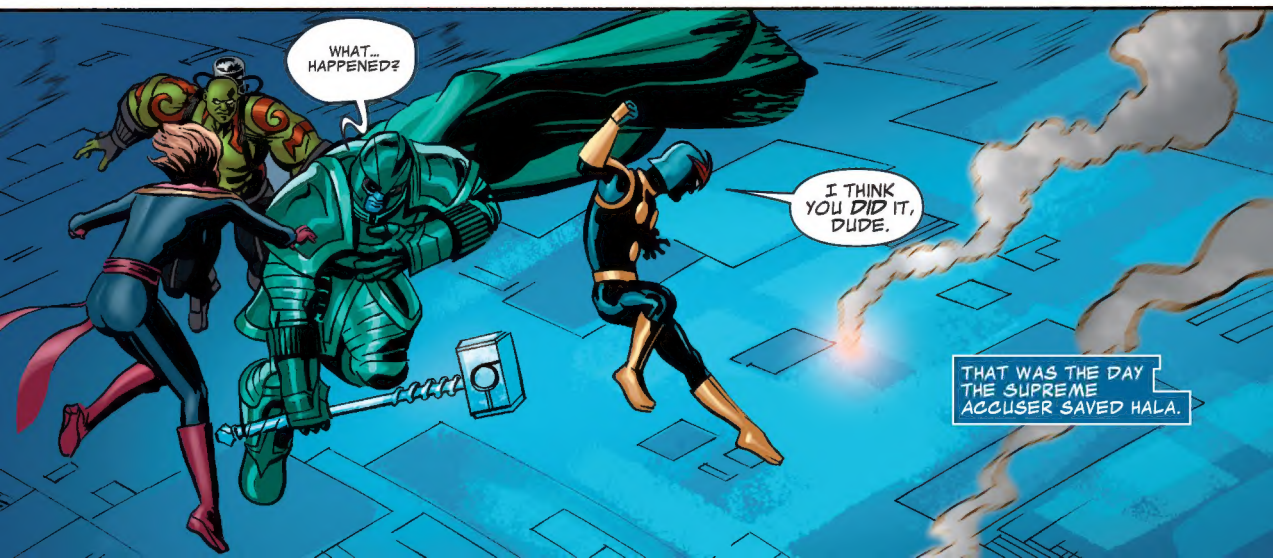
HOW
COULD I
HAVE BROUGHT
THEM BACK...?



HOW DID
I BECOME A
MONSTER?



BEAST!



BUT NOT WITHOUT
EXACTING A PRICE.

THE GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY
AND THE EARTH'S X-MEN--
THEIR NAMES WILL LIVE
FOREVER AS DEFENDERS
OF HALA.

BUT THE NAME OF RONAN
WILL LIVE FOREVER IN
DISGRACE.

THE ACCUSER WHO
VIOLATED THE WORD
OF THE SUPREMOR.

ALL THAT REMAINS NOW OF MY DUTY
IS TO FACE THE *CONSEQUENCES*
OF MY ACTIONS.

IF YOU ARE READING MY
WORDS A HUNDRED YEARS
HENCE, A THOUSAND YEARS,
MILLENNIA HENCE--

--THEN LOOK AROUND YOU. IF YOU
CAN SEE WITH YOUR OWN EYES...
THE BEAUTY OF HALA. THE
STRENGTH OF THE ACCUSER CORPS.
THE NOBILITY OF THE KREE...

...THEN YOU SEE WITH
YOUR OWN EYES. THE
UNDENIABLE EVIDENCE--

--I WAS
RIGHT.



TO BE CONTINUED IN...
GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY #25!
CHAPTER SEVEN OF THE BLACK VORTEX!

GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY & X-MEN

THE BLACK VORTEX

CHAPTER 6

FOLLOW THE SAGA OF THE BLACK VORTEX IN
GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY #25



COVER ART BY VALERIO SCHITI AND JASON KEITH

**ON-SALE
FEBRUARY**

~~THE BLACK
VORTEX ALPHA #1~~

~~GUARDIANS OF
THE GALAXY #24~~

~~LEGENDARY
STAR-LORD #9~~

~~ALL-NEW
X-MEN #20~~

**ON-SALE
MARCH**

~~ALL-NEW
X-MEN #20~~

GUARDIANS
TEAM-UP #3

GUARDIANS OF
THE GALAXY #25

NOVA #28

LEGENDARY
STAR-LORD #10

**ON-SALE
APRIL**
CYCLOPS #12

CAPTAIN
MARVEL #14

LEGENDARY
STAR-LORD #11

THE BLACK VORTEX
OMEGA #1